



Docket No. GYN-0045

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Jorg Priewe

Serial No. : 09/589,242

Art Unit: 3731

Filed : June 7, 2000

Examiner: Roberts, Paul A.

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ADJUSTING FLEXIBLE AREAL
POLYMER

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

March 1, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Matthew S. Goodwin

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

March 1, 2004

(Date of Signature)

RECEIVED
MAR 08 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER H3700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this

information may not be enabling for the teaching purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with \$1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with \$1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under \$1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under \$1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with \$1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p).

☒ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.

☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☐ Copies of only foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2). (The U.S. patents and each U.S. patent application publication listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not

enclosed because his U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003 or this international application has entered the national stage under 35 USC §371 after June 30, 2003 (see USPTO waiver of requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i)).

☐ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.


☒ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows: DE4334419 and SE 503271.

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/GYN0045/MJS. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew S. Goodwin
Reg. No. 32,839
Attorney for Applicants

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(732) 524-3849
DATED: March 1, 2004



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1448A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 6

Application Number	09/589,242
Filing Date	June 7, 2000
First Named Inventor	Jorg Priewe
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Roberts, Paul A.
Attorney Docket Number	GYN-0045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		3182662		Shrodkar	05/11/1965	
		3212502		Myers	10/19/1965	
		3311110		Singeman	03/28/1967	
		3372895		Beiveau, et al.	03/12/1968	
		3472232		Earl	10/14/1968	
		3608095		Barry	09/28/1971	
		3763860		Clarke	10/09/1973	
		3858783		Kaplanov, et al.	01/07/1975	
		3924833		Cook, et al.	12/09/1975	
		4037603		Wendorff	07/26/1977	
		4128100		Wendorff	12/05/1978	

RECEIVED
MAR 08 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3108**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	f ²
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
		AU	B278089		Ethicon, Inc.	06/03/1967		X
		AU	B441561		Ethicon, Inc.	01/06/1973		X
		DE	4334419		Hacklander	04/13/1995		
		EP	0589976		American Cyanamid Co.	06/01/1994		X
		EP	0941712		Gä-Vernet Via	09/15/1999		X
		EP	1025811		DeMarais, et al.	08/09/2000		X
		SE	503271		Ulmsten, et al.	04/29/1996		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



PTO/SB-08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 6

Application Number	09/569,242
Filing Date	June 7, 2000
First Named Inventor	Jorg Priewe
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Roberts, Paul A.
Attorney Docket Number	GYN-0045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4235238		Ogli, et al.	11/25/1980	
		4392495		Bayers	07/12/1983	
		4441497		Paudler	04/10/1984	
		4508516		Richmond	04/09/1985	
		4549545		Levy	10/28/1985	
		4948467		Ohl, et al.	08/07/1990	
		5013292		Lemay	06/07/1991	
		5032508		Naughton, et al.	07/16/1991	
		5080667		Chan, et al.	01/14/1992	
		5180385		Sontag	01/19/1993	
		5250033		Evans, et al.	10/05/1993	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
		WO	9003768		Petros	04/19/1990		X
		WO	9606567		Mediscand Medical	03/07/1996		X
		WO	9831301		Lenadors	07/23/1998		X

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PTO/SB/OBA (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449-A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 6

Application Number	09/589,242
Filing Date	June 7, 2000
First Named Inventor	Jorg Priewe
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Roberts, Paul A.
Attorney Docket Number	GYN-0045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5281237		Gimpetson	01/25/1994	
		5337736		Raddy	08/18/1994	
		5362294		Seitzinger	11/08/1994	
		5368595		Lewis	11/29/1994	
		5368756		Vogel, et al.	11/29/1994	
		5382257		Lewis, et al.	01/17/1995	
		5383904		Totakura, et al.	01/24/1995	
		5403328		Shalman	04/04/1995	
		5450860		O'Connor	09/19/1995	
		5582188		Bonderev	12/10/1996	
		5628756		Barker, Jr., et al.	05/13/1997	
		5645568		Chervitz, et al.	07/08/1997	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



PTO/SB/08A (09-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 4 of 6

Application Number	09/589,242
Filing Date	June 7, 2000
First Named Inventor	Jorg Priebe
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Roberts, Paul A.
Attorney Docket Number	GYN-0045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6741289		Rudi	04/21/1998	
		5836315		Benderow, et al.	11/17/1998	
		5855549		Newman	01/05/1999	
		5934283		Wilam, et al.	10/10/1999	
		5835122		Fourkas, et al.	09/10/1999	
		5945122		Abra, et al.	08/31/1999	
		5967554		Thompson	11/27/1999	
		6030393		Corlew	02/29/2000	
		6110101		Tihon, et al.	08/29/2000	
		6117067		Gil-Vernet	09/12/2000	
		6491703		Ulmston	10/10/2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	r ³
		Office ⁴	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

RECEIVED
MAR 08 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER B5780

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 5 of 6

Application Number	09/589,242
Filing Date	June 7, 2000
First Named Inventor	Jorg Priewe
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Roberts, Paul A.
Attorney Docket Number	GYN-0045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		6605097		Lehe, et al.	08/12/2003	
		2001/0049467	A1	Lehe, et al.	12/06/2001	
		2002/0077526	A1	Kammerer, et al.	06/20/2002	
		2002/0091373	A1	Berger	07/11/2002	
		2002/0188169	A1	Kammerer, Et al.	12/12/2002	
		2003/0023138	A1	Luscombe	01/30/2003	
		2003/0149440	A1	Kammerer, et al.	06/07/2003	
		2003/0176762	A1	Kammerer	09/16/2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ³
		Office ⁴	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

